



HB 301 Mental Health Educational Programming K-12

06/29/23 Update

Summary

House Bill 301 of the 151st General Assembly was signed by Governor John Carney on August 3rd, 2023. HB 301 is the inclusion of Mental Health educational programs K-12. The bill outlines mandatory instruction in age- and developmentally appropriate social and emotional learning and mental health content in all public schools no later than the 2023-24 school year. A working group was formed to support the bill which includes members of the Department of Education, Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families (DSCYF), Division of Health and Social Services (DHSS), Mental Health Associates of Delaware, Delaware Guidance and National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI).

Key Intents and Details

- The group developed a framework for identifying educational programming which includes the following:
 - Mental Health Literacy Competencies and sub-competencies
 - Recognize mental health as brain health, an integral component of overall health
 - Promote social and emotional competence as a protective factor
 - Enhance awareness about mental health challenges
 - Increase help-seeking behavior
 - Decrease stigma
 - Mental Health Educational Programs Analysis Tool
 - [Analysis Tool](#) used to review programming
 - [Selection Tool](#) used as a menu of options for selecting programming
 - MTSS Framework with Mental Health and SEL as Tier 1 supports
 - Regulation 508, approved by SBE in February 2023

Implementation Progress

- Districts and charters will have the 2023/2024 school year to prepare for full implementation during the 2024/2025 SY.
- Review sessions were held in May of 2023 to share programs that have been identified as meeting the needs of House Bill 301, using the Analysis Tool.
- Updates will be provided during the August Communication and Collaboration Network (CCN) meeting.
- Program reviews will continue and the Selection Tool will be updated quarterly.